

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 are pending and under consideration. No new matter is presented in this Amendment.

DOUBLE PATENTING

On pages 2-7 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejects claims 1-15 on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting over selected claims of U.S. Patent Nos. 6,744,972, 6,707,985, 6,687,455, 6,610,201, and 6,907,189; provisionally rejects claims 1-8 and 11-14 on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting over selected claims of copending Application No. 09/927,491; and provisionally rejects claims 1-14 on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting over selected claims of copending Application Nos. 09/927,494 and 09/927,495.

As an initial point of clarification, the Examiner rejects claims 1-15 on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting over selected claims of U.S. Patent No. 6,610,201. However, U.S. Patent No. 6,610,201 does not relate to the instant application and is entitled "HIGH PRESSURE CAPILLARY LIQUID CHROMATOGRAPHY SOLVENT DELIVERY SYSTEM." In view of the form PTO-892 accompanying the Office Action, it is believed that the Examiner intended to base this rejection using U.S. Patent No. 6,810,201.

If this assumption is in error, it is respectfully requested that the rejection in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,610,201 be withdrawn as inappropriate according to the factors set forth in MPEP 804.

In view of the enclosed Terminal Disclaimer, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 1-15 in view of U.S. Patent Nos. 6,744,972, 6,707,985, 6,687,455, 6,810,201, and 6,907,189 be withdrawn.

Lastly, U.S. Patent Application Nos. 09/927,491, 09/927,494 and 09/927,495 have not yet been indicated as being allowable. Since there remain no other outstanding rejections, it is respectfully requested that the provisional rejection be withdrawn and the application allow to issue in accordance with MPEP 804(I)(B).

CONCLUSION:

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited. Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

Serial No. 09/927,500

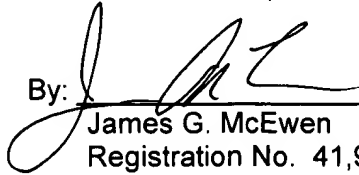
Docket No. 1293.1059CIP2D

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 503333.

Respectfully submitted,

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